

REMARKS

None of the amendments presented by this Preliminary Amendment introduce new matter. Support for the amendments of claims 1-11, 15 and 16 is found in the specification and claims as originally filed. Specifically, the amendments either clarify the description of the invention, as recited by the claims, or place the claims in conformance with U.S. practice. New claims 18 and 19 are directed to a narrower embodiment of claims 1 and 7, respectively. As recited by claims 18 and 19, the definition of the H^+ , K^+ -ATPase inhibitor excludes pantoprazole.

Applicants respectfully submit, therefore, that pending claims 1-11, 15, 16, 18 and 19 are in condition for allowance, which action is earnestly solicited.

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Respectfully submitted,



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